

August 4th, 2005

Dear Chairman Martin;

We operate an ISP in Redmond, Washington and serve 18,000 customers. We started offering ISP services in 1995, before any of the existing telephone companies participated in Internet services. Open Access deregulation will harm our business and the ability to continue to provide competitive services to our DSL and Internet customers. Consumers need and deserve the choice they enjoy today and deregulation will take away their right to choose providers and services.

President Bush signed Executive Order 13272 on August 13, 2002 requiring federal agencies to implement policies protecting small entities when writing new rules and regulations. President Bush' Small Business Agenda states that every new business starts with an idea for a better product or process, which has been the driving force of Internet innovation we enjoy today.

These ideas become reality only when confident entrepreneurs are willing to take economic risks and ISP's have gallantly taken this risk. Small businesses are the heart of the American economy because they drive innovation - new firms are established on the very premise that they can do a better job and recognize that a one-size-fits all approach is not good for business and innovation.

A few legacy carriers cannot continue to benefit from valuable government grants and licenses, including the use of public rights-of-way, and be allowed to extend those rights in a way that bars others from offering their service to the public.

President Bush has called for recognition that supporting America's small businesses is critical to ensuring continued job creation. Today, small businesses create two-thirds of new private sector jobs in America, employ more than half of all workers, and account for more than half of the output of our economy.

The FCC has been entrusted with protecting consumers, encouraging economic development, and ensuring that competition is allowed to develop, rather than being quashed by a deregulated monopoly. Already, we are seeing the Bells move to increase prices and lock out competitors, without regulation, small business will be harmed, thousands of ISP's will be forced out of business, highly-skilled workers will lose their jobs and consumers will lose the choice of platform for broadband services and support.

Deregulation will be bad for America and we encourage the FCC to reconsider deregulating open access.

Sincerely

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